

by Mr. Wallace Wood, a companion on many past collecting trips. They went by way of Mexicali, driving as far as San Felipe. There they left the station wagon and continued on to the San Luis Islands, their destination, by fishing boat.

### STAFF NEWS

THREE MEMBERS of the Academy's staff, Dr. Robert C. Miller, Director, Dr. Wilbert M. Chapman, Curator of Fishes, and Dr. John L. Kask, Curator of Aquatic Biology, attended the annual meeting of Pacific Fisheries Biologists held at Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, April 10-12, 1947.

On May 4 Dr. Chapman departed by plane for Washington, D. C., where he has been asked to testify on the Farrington Bill before the Sub-Committee on Fisheries of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House of Representatives. The Farrington Bill provides for an extensive program of investigation of the tuna fisheries of the central Pacific, on which Dr. Chapman is a leading authority.

Subsequent to his stay in Washington, Dr. Chapman will make a trip to Europe to study the types of blennoid fishes located in the Museums of Paris, London and Amsterdam. Dr. Chapman was recently awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to finance this study, which is in connection with the monograph he is preparing on the blennoid fishes of the world.

Miss Grace I. Crowe, assistant in the Department of Birds and Mammals, is away on a trip to Pennsylvania, New York and Washington, D. C. A portion of her time will be spent in studying the migration of warblers.

Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of Birds and Mammals, recently spent a week in San Luis Obispo County visiting Mr. Eben McMillan of the Wreden Ranch. Mr. McMillan is greatly interested in conservation and has made a special study of the birds of the region, particularly the condors. Dr. Orr returned with a number of birds and mammals for the Academy's collection. Mr. William Wreden of Burlingame is owner of the ranch and a friend of the Academy.

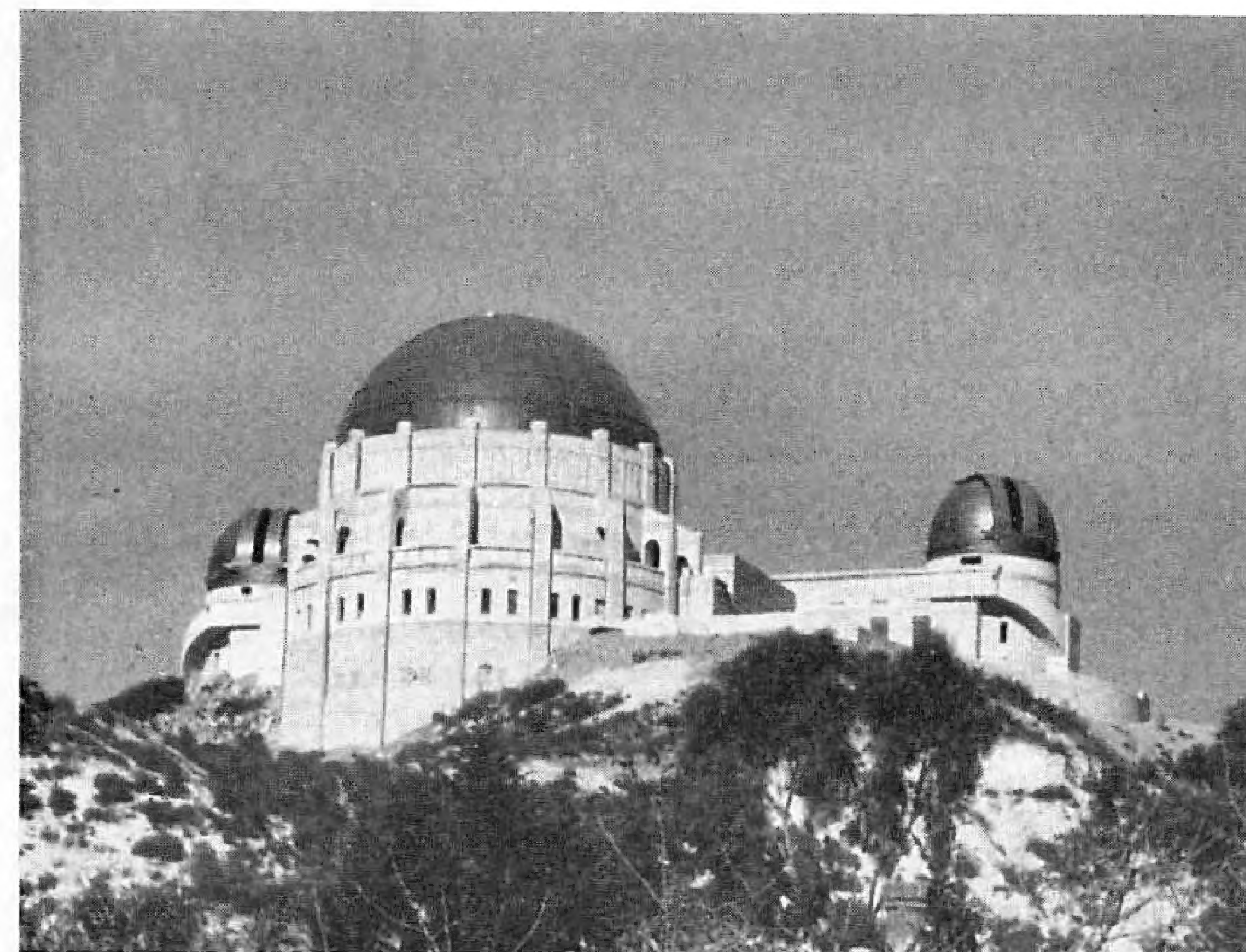
### THUNBERG'S FLORA JAPONICA

MISS ALICE EASTWOOD, Curator of Botany in the California Academy of Sciences, has after a long search procured a rare library item, Thunberg's *Flora Japonica*, and has donated it to the Academy. The copy is especially handsome. This work, published in 1784, was the first flora of Japan. Thunberg was a student of Linnaeus.

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 89

May, 1947



THE GRIFFITH PLANETARIUM AND OBSERVATORY, LOS ANGELES

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*Published Monthly by*  
**CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**  
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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## May Announcement

THE REGULAR MAY MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in North American Hall, West Wing of the Academy Buildings in Golden Gate Park, Wednesday evening, May 21, at 8:00 o'clock. This will be a joint meeting with the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. The lecture of the evening will be given by Professor Earl G. Linsley, Director of the Chabot Observatory, Oakland, California, who will take as his subject:

### THE PLANETARIUM, A THEATRE OF THE STARS

Professor Linsley, who is widely known as a gifted and lucid lecturer on astronomy, will give an illustrated lecture on the planetariums of Europe and America, explaining the purpose of a planetarium, the mechanism of its operation, and its value as an educational aid in the teaching of astronomy and navigation. He will also emphasize the popular appeal of this, the greatest instrument ever devised for acquainting the common man with the wonders of the starry universe about him.

He will conclude with a discussion of the plan just announced by the California Academy of Sciences for a planetarium in Golden Gate Park.

The public is cordially invited to hear Professor Linsley.



### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting on May 13, 1947, approved the applications of Mr. Francis G. Byrne for LIFE MEMBERSHIP, of Miss Helen Herrick for MEMBERSHIP, and of Schuyler L. Jeffries and Ted Mackay for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after May 16, they will be considered elected.



### AFTER MANY A SUMMER

IN THE COLLECTIONS of the Department of Birds and Mammals at the California Academy of Sciences is an arrowhead of caribou horn,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches long, which was found in the wing of a Whistling Swan, near Sacramento. Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of the Department, says that the arrow, which had penetrated the swan's body and

was protruding from one wing, was one of a type used by Eskimos along the Arctic Coast of Alaska. This, however, did not prevent the bird from making one, and perhaps more, migratory flights of several thousand miles, from northern Alaska to central California.

The arrowhead is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide and flattened. It was protruding about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the wing.

Findings of this sort are of particular interest to anthropologists, as indicating one of the ways in which artifacts characteristic of a particular native culture may be carried to places thousands of miles from their point of origin.



### BECKMAN HERBARIUM

THE BECKMAN HERBARIUM, one of the oldest herbaria in America, has been presented to the California Academy of Sciences by Mrs. H. P. Bracelin of Berkeley. This botanical treasure consists of a book of about five hundred pressed plants from Sweden, the work of Anders Beckman, a student of Linnaeus. The herbarium was completed in 1752, one year before Linnaeus published his *Species Plantarum*. The terminology used in this herbarium was based, therefore, on an older work by Linnaeus, *Flora Suecica*. Mrs. Bracelin came into possession of the herbarium through Sara Beckman, a descendant of Anders Beckman.

Through Mrs. Bracelin, the Academy also received 1,700 specimens of garden plants from the Anson Blake gardens of Berkeley. These gardens, containing a wealth of exotic flora, are of outstanding horticultural as well as botanical interest.



### CANTELOW COLLECTION

MR. AND MRS. H. C. CANTELOW, of Berkeley, have donated their valuable collection of 4,680 mounted botanical specimens to the California Academy of Sciences. These are chiefly from California but some represent other western states. Several new species have already been described from this extensive collection.



### W. I. FOLLETT APPOINTED RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

AT THE MEETING of the Academy's Council held April 22, 1947, Mr. W. I. Follett, Recording Secretary of the Academy, was appointed Research Associate in Ichthyology. Mr. Follett, an Oakland attorney, is well known for his research on California fishes.



### HERPETOLOGY EXPEDITION TO LOWER CALIFORNIA

MR. JOSEPH SLEVIN, Curator of Herpetology in the California Academy of Sciences, is now in Lower California collecting amphibians and reptiles. He is accompanied